

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, YO, US
SUBJECT: "NAZISM AND PUBIC HAIR": -- ZAGREB PRESS COMMENT ON
NEO-NAZISM IN U.S. AND ARTUKOVIC CASE

1. ZAGREB DAILY "VJESNIK" (FEBRUARY 27) CARRIES COMMENTARY BY
NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT DRAZEN VUKOV COLIC ON NEO-NAZISM IN U.S.
ARTICLE ENTITLED "NAZISM AND PUBIC HAIR" CONTRASTS HEAVY SEN-
TENCE RECENTLY RECEIVED BY EDITOR OF PORNOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE IN
CINCINNATI WITH ALLEGED FREEDOM OF ACTION PERMITTED TO NEO-
NAZI GROUPS IN U.S. VUKOV COLIC USES CASE OF MURDER OF FIVE
PERSONS IN NEW YORK BY NEO-NAZI FANATIC TO ARGUE THAT DANGERS
FROM PORNOGRAPHY ARE FAR LESS THAN THOSE FROM TOLERATION OF
NEO-NAZI GROUPS.

2. IN THIS CONTEXT, FINAL THIRD OF ARTICLE DISCUSSES CASE OF
FORMER USTASHI INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC WHO
CURRENTLY LIVES IN U.S. VUKOV COLIC STATES THAT U.S. REFUSED TO
EXTRADITE ARTUKOVIC FOR "POLITICAL REASONS," AND "LATER ALL THE
DOCUMENTS FROM THE HEARING WERE VERY SECRETLY LOST." ARTICLE
NOTES THAT RE-EXAMINATION OF CASES OF NAZI WAR CRIMINALS LIVING
IN U.S. HAS BEGUN BUT COMMENTS PESSIMISTICALLY THAT ONE SHOULD
NOT HAVE TOO MUCH HOPE SINCE "ANTI-COMMUNISM HAS AGAIN BEEN
AWAKENED." VUKOV COLIC CONCLUDES BY QUOTING U.S. JOURNALIST
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MIKE ROYKO OF NEW YORK POST, "THIS COUNTRY, IT SEEMS, BELIEVES
THAT A FEW PUBIC HAIRS ARE A FAR GREATER THREAT THAN ANTI-
SEMITISM OR RACISM."

3. COMMENT: "VJESNIK" ARTICLE SERVES TO PROMOTE YUGOSLAV
SUSPICION THAT TOLERATION OF ACTIVITIES OF EXTREMIST GROUPS
IN U.S. IMPLIES SOME KIND OF TACIT OFFICIAL APPROVAL OR IS

RESULT OF THEIR INFLUENCE IN HIGH PLACES. CONTINUED PRESENCE OF ARTUKOVIC IN U.S. IS ONE OF THE STRONGEST AND MOST FREQUENTLY USED PIECES OF EVIDENCE TO BACK THIS SUSPICION. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, CROATIAN OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED TO US THEIR INABILITY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT APPEARS TO THEM AS U.S. PROTECTION OF USTASHI WAR CRIMINAL. DIFFERENCES IN U.S. AND YUGOSLAV POLITICAL SYSTEMS AND LEGAL PROCEDURES MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR US TO CONVINCE YUGOSLAVS THEY ARE WRONG IN THEIR INTERPRETATION OF ACTIVITIES OF EXTREMISTS IN U.S. BUT CONTINUED PRESENCE OF ARTUKOVIC IN U.S. MAKES IT EVEN MORE DIFFICULT TO DO SO. KAISER

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